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RR RUEHRG  
DE RUEHBR #0768 1581756  
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R 061756Z JUN 08  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1817  
INFO RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC  
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 2160  
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 6223  
RUEHRG/AMCONSUL RECIFE 8102

UNCLAS BRASILIA 000768

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

PASS TO: STATE FOR EEB/TPP/ABT AWINTON  
STATE FOR EEB/TPP MLURIE  
STATE FOR EEB/IFD/ODF MSIEMER  
STATE FOR EEB/TPP/MTA CVOLTMER  
STATE FOR EEB/TPP/ABT GCLEMENTS  
STATE FOR EEB/TPP/ABT JBOBO  
STATE FOR USAID  
USDA FAS/OA FOR CJACKSON  
USDA FAS/OA FOR MHOUSE  
USDA FAS/OGA FOR ACHAUDRY  
USDA FAS/OFSO FOR AREA DIRECTOR JBAILEY  
USDA FAS/OCRA FOR BZANIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF DEMARCHES ON FOOD SECURITY TO BRAZILIAN  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

REF: A) STATE 53353, B) STATE 52628, C) STATE 53346

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

11. SUMMARY: Post delivered the messages indicated in reftels to the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA). MAPA agrees with many of the arguments stated and shares many common positions with the U.S. government. END SUMMARY.

12. (SBU) USDA Under Secretary Mark Keenum and FAS Administrator Michael Yost both utilized the Third Meeting of the USA-Brazil Consultative Committee on Agriculture (CCA), on May 20, 2008 in Brasilia to convey to MAPA the demarche message regarding the benefits of biotechnology, as well as the harm caused by food export restrictions.

13. (SBU) Celio Porto, Under Secretary for International Relations, both in the CCA and in the joint press conference with Under Secretary Keenum, expressed frustration with the export restrictions put in place by Argentina. MAPA also expressed support for the position regarding biotechnology, but noted that, although Brazil has a modern legal framework in place to regulate biotechnology, the GOB still faces opposition from some anti-biotech groups in Brazil.

14. (SBU) Following the CCA, FAS Brasilia delivered three demarches (reftels) to Mr. Celio Porto. These demarches were "Request to End Food Staple Export Restrictions", "The President's Global Food Security Initiative and Trade" and "Biotechnology and Food Security". He acknowledged receipt of these messages and commented that Brazil and the United States have similar positions in these areas and are key players in the world to resolve food shortages. Post will follow up as further information becomes available.

SOBEL